women participate in vocational technical education programs and, again, have met the vocational-technical education benchmarks established by the State.'' This is mandatory, not permissive or optional.

And what happens if the State fails to meet those benchmarks? Very clearly, right here, colleagues, in the bill, ''If a State fails to meet the State benchmarks, the Secretary of Education may withhold from the State all or a portion of the State's allotment under this Act.''

We have taken real concrete steps to address Members' concerns in this legislation. I submit to Members that the language in the bill now negates the need for the Mink amendment. I implore my colleagues, do not replace a State mandate with a local mandate, do not replace a State set-aside with a local set-aside. Support the legislation as it is presently drafted. Vote ''no'' on the Mink amendment. Just say no to more mandates for local schools.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I listened with interest to the logic from the gentleman from California, and I wondered whether or not if we follow that logic through if the idea would be that if we built more prisons somehow we would end up with more crime. The truth of the matter is that simply because we try to solve a problem by fixing it, by assisting in the solution of the issue, by having people work in various school systems and the like to solve a problem of gender inequity does not mean that the inequity is going to be perpetuated; it means that we are trying to solve it.

I mean, the fact of the matter is that when young people in my district and across the country ask me what the great issues of the day that I believe are out there, I say, ''Listen, you look at the people sitting in this room in a particular high school, look at the young women in this high school.'' The fact is that if they go out and get the same job, work in the same number of hours as a young man doing the same kind of activity, they are going to get paid 69 cents for every dollar that the man gets, and the fact is that it is time that we take into consideration the kind of gender prejudice that exists in America.

Mr. Chairman, that is all that we have done in the Congress in the past. That is what we are asking that this bill, and I think the Mink amendment, which is supported on a bipartisan basis by the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. WOOLSEY] and the like, that recognizes what we want to maintain is the effort that has been recognized by the Congress of the United States to end the kind of gender prejudice that exists throughout our country.

The fact is that anyone who has looked at where jobs are and young women are targeted in terms of what the kinds of jobs that they are going to be able to pursue is that not only is the pay gap currently that 6 out of 10 women are employed in the traditional female roles. One reason for the pay gap that currently exists is that 6 out of 10 women are employed in the traditional female fields of service, technical jobs, sales and administrative support.

□ 1300

In contrast, two-thirds of the men worked as managers, operators, professionals, and craft workers. All we are trying to do in this legislation, and I think the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] deserves a great deal of credit, is to try to maintain the fact that we want to ensure that there is in fact a small set-aside to eliminate the kind of gender gap that has existed in our system, and do everything we can to make certain that that gap is eliminated on the fastest possible basis.

Mr. Chairman, I know we are running out of time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentlewoman from New York.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise really in support of the Mink amendment. My office keeps a scorecard on the legislative attempts to take programs and benefits away from women. Unfortunately, we are chalking up another attack today. It is not as if we are asking for new funding. All we want is continued funding at this year's level, and the continuation of programs that work. Displaced homemakers, single parents, pregnant women, and some girls in vocational schools are all populations at risk. Why shut them out? Why, at the same time we are trying to get women off welfare rolls, are we eliminating the very programs that will help them get off welfare rolls?

In Oregon a recent study documented its long-term success in increasing employment rates from 28 percent to 71 percent. Wages increased; 14 percent of the women on welfare got off welfare. There is so much to fix, Mr. Chairman, that is broken. Let us not try to fix what is not broken. Let us continue funding for this program.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Mink amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to voice my strong support to Congresswoman MINK's amendment. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment asking for financial support for programs that benefit girls and women. This is essential to help secure a future for millions of female citizens.

Young adults need vocational education and job training because this will provide them the skills needed to succeed in today's workplace. We must provide women with these opportunities because only then will we contribute to lowering the number of women receiving welfare assistance, enabling them to become self-sufficient and independent. Struggling homemakers, single mothers, and teenage women will have an opportunity to live productively and comfortably by having the chance to become educated in employment areas where there is high demand for skilled workers.

Vocational education and job training are directly linked to the reduction of welfare. If we want women to get off welfare, we need to provide meaningful job programs to train them. The participation in these programs results in higher wages and an increased number of work hours for women. I am asking you to support programs that train women for nontraditional jobs—like masons, computer programmers, and plumbers.

Displaced homemakers and single parent programs are crucial to the well-being of the disadvantaged. It is crucial that we provide funding for these programs. Displaced homemakers and single parent programs specialize in individually targeted pre-employment training and counseling services. Women will benefit from life skills development, career exploration, job training and placement, and support services.

In my State of Texas, 52 percent of displaced women rated the displaced homemaker or single parent program as much better than any other government program in which they have participated. Texas needs financial support of these programs. These programs help all women:

There are 1.2 million displaced homemakers in Texas: 47 percent of displaced homemakers are under 50 years old; and 39 percent of displaced homemakers are African-American, Asian, and Hispanic.

There are 561,342 single mothers in Texas: 61 percent of Texan single mothers are between the ages of 25–44; 47 percent of single mothers are African-American and Hispanic; and 53 percent are nonminority.

I urge all of you to support this amendment: you will be building the foundation for displaced homemakers, single parents, and individuals training for nontraditional occupations.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KLUG) having assumed the chair, Mr. EWING, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1853) to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, had come to no resolution thereon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the

further consideration of H.R. 2160, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2160) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, the Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN].

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make a point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 259, nays 165, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 281]

YEAS—259

Aderholt
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blunt
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Brady
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Cook
Cooksey
Cox
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeLay
Dellums
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Fawell
Foley
Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Goss
Graham
Granger
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kim
King (NY)
Kingston
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lucas
Manzullo
Matsui
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
Metcalf
Mica
Miller (FL)
Moakley
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Ortiz
Oxley
Packard
Pappas
Parker
Paul
Paxon
Pease
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Redmond
Regula
Riggs
Riley
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryun
Salmon
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stenholm
Stump
Sununu
Talent
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Traficant
Upton
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Young (FL)

NAYS—165

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Bentsen
Berman
Berry
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Bonior
Boswell
Boyd
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Capps
Carson
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Condit
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Edwards
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Ford
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gordon
Green
Gutierrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hooley
Hoyer
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
Kleczka
Kucinich
Lampson
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Millender-McDonald
Miller (CA)
Minge
Mink
Moran (VA)
Nadler
Obey
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Poshard
Rangel
Reyes
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Sherman
Skaggs
Slaughter
Smith, Adam
Snyder
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stokes
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Thurman
Tierney
Torres
Towns
Turner
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Wexler
Weygand
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates

NOT VOTING—10

Boehlert
Conyers
Forbes
Gonzalez
Houghton
Molinari
Roukema
Schiff
Smith (TX)
Young (AK)

□ 1329

Messrs. SKAGGS, HILLIARD, RUSH, ROTHMAN, OWENS, DICKS and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. MOLLOHAN changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE VOTE OFFERED BY MR. FRANK OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. KINGSTON

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLUG). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] to lay on the table the motion to reconsider the vote offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 238, noes 188, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 282]

AYES—238

Aderholt
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Brady
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Cook
Cooksey
Cox
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cunningham
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeLay
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Ensign
Everett
Ewing
Fawell
Foley
Fowler
Fox
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Goss
Graham
Granger
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hamilton
Hansen
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook